
By: **Delegates Dumais, Amedori, Anderson, Barkley, Kelley, King, Lee, and
Zirkin**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2004

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law - Unattended Children**

3 FOR the purpose of altering a certain prohibition against allowing a certain child to
4 be locked or confined in a dwelling, building, enclosure, or motor vehicle under
5 certain circumstances; and generally relating to unattended children.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article - Family Law
8 Section 5-801
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article - Family Law**

14 5-801.

15 (a) A person who is charged with the care of a child under the age of 8 years
16 may not [allow] LEAVE the child [to be locked or confined] in a dwelling, building,
17 enclosure, or motor vehicle while the person charged is absent and the dwelling,
18 building, enclosure, or motor vehicle is out of the sight of the person charged unless
19 the person charged provides a reliable person at least 13 years old to remain with the
20 child to protect the child.

21 (b) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on
22 conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment not exceeding 30
23 days, or both.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
25 effect October 1, 2004.